

JULIAN H FISHER MD

July 17, 2014

Attorney General Martha Coakley
Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108-1518

Dear Attorney General Coakley:

The behavior over the years that Partners Health has shown in overpricing its services is irresponsible, no matter how they justify it.

I am glad that you have chosen to delay advancing the settlement you proposed to them, since it does far too little to cap costs. While they are permitted to add more hospitals to their network, it does not force them to reduce their prices to the reasonable levels of other excellent hospitals both in Boston and afar.

Price reduction is crucial. All of their talk about greater size leading to greater efficiency is empty rhetoric. They need to be forced to roll prices back before they can expand anywhere.

The patients of Massachusetts deserve no less, and especially when the senior management of Partners draw staggering salaries....and seem not to be embarrassed by that.

Please do something definitive to drive health care costs down. Clamping down on Partners should be the first step.

Thank you.



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